



KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AUGUST BOARD NOTES

Volume 16, No. 3 -- Report of the August 6-7, 2008, Regular Meeting

COMMENTS FROM JOE BROTHERS, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR



As your students return to school this fall, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) wants you to know that we hope all of you experience a safe and smooth school opening. All of us at both the state and local district levels are aware of the challenges that reduced resources present; however, let us take this opportunity to be innovative and creative as we focus the available resources on ensuring our students are *Proficient and Prepared for Success* as they exit our schools through graduation. Certainly, at the same time, we should be advocating for and seeking additional resources to enhance academic achievement.

If you need to communicate with the board, send your questions to Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov or you can get individual contact information for KBE members at the following Web address:

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Kentucky+Board+of+Education/Kentucky+Board+of+Education+Member+Directory.htm> .

MEET AUSTIN MOSS AND BRIGITTE RAMSEY, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

As a new feature of *Board Notes*, we will be featuring information about two members per issue over the next few months. Below are the bios of two of our new members, Austin Moss and Brigitte Ramsey.



Austin Moss is vice president of Human Resources at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville. He is responsible for the delivery of all human resource services for this 830-employee acute care medical center. Mr. Moss has more than 30 years of U.S. and international human resources experience in union and non-union environments. He has been a small business owner, substitute teacher, local school board member and member of the Kentucky School Boards Association, as well as having served on numerous community and business leadership boards. Mr. Moss is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's degree in political science. He and his wife, Teresa, have four children.



Brigitte Ramsey of Pendleton County holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of Kentucky and undergraduate degrees in economics and international studies from Northern Kentucky University. For the past ten years, she served as a Pendleton County Board of Education member where she maintained a strong focus on individual academic achievement and establishing educational leadership. Ms. Ramsey has worked in various research capacities for Northern Kentucky University, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, and the University of Cincinnati. Currently, she is working as a tax analyst for Kentucky Youth Advocates. She and her husband, Todd, have four school-age children.



BOARD ACCEPTS REPORT FROM BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON INTERVENTIONS IN LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS

At the August 6-7 Kentucky Board of Education meeting, the board accepted the report from the Blue Ribbon Panel on Interventions in Low-Performing Schools. The panel was composed of a diverse group of stakeholders from across the state with the charge to:

- determine the best possible strategies for intervention and make recommendations on findings.
- make recommendations for how the Kentucky Department of Education may intervene and provide assistance differently to dramatically improve student achievement in the lowest-performing schools and districts.
- make recommendations for a legislative package to deal with the lowest performing schools and districts.

The major recommendations that came forward were:

- Provide the document titled “Promising Practices from Kentucky High Performing Schools and Districts” and the Promising Practices Framework to low-performing schools and districts as a resource from which to choose those practices that best fit their situation.

- Implement Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) assistance using “A Systemic Model of Intervention and Support” that would consist of the following steps:
 - initial determination of level of assistance
 - assignment of schools and districts to the level of intervention model based on the intervention and level of assistance needed
 - determination of personnel/team needed to implement interventions/support
 - ongoing monitoring of intervention model for timely implementation and success

- Address governance as a crucial centerpiece of any legislative proposal, including a recommendation that low student academic performance be added to the existing statute as grounds for removal of a superintendent or school board member. Other recommendations for legislative action consisted of more specificity in terms of the composition of the team that will be assisting the school and the establishment of a set of tools that would be available to the team, such as reduction of class size, compensation incentives to recruit and retain teachers and coaching and mentoring programs for teachers, administrators, schools and districts. Also addressed was the need for regulatory changes to provide additional clarification of the process and recommended areas for which additional appropriations will be required.

The board authorized KDE staff to move forward with immediate implementation of those recommendations that can be put in place this fall along with the drafting of a legislative package for those items requiring additional authority that would be considered by the General Assembly in the 2009 session.

For more information on the content of this report, contact Elaine Farris at (502) 564-5130 or via e-mail at Elaine.Farris@education.ky.gov.

ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY REGULATIONS CONSIDERED

The Kentucky Board of Education took action on two assessment and accountability regulations and reviewed one other regulation in this area. The board gave final approval to the following:

- 703 KAR 5:070, Procedures for the inclusion of special populations in the state-required assessment and accountability programs (Final) – Proposed changes reflect the current assessment and accountability system and new technologies, incorporate federal requirements for students with limited English proficiency and remove repetitive language or language found in other current regulations. Relative to LEP students, conditions and limits on the use of a scribe for LEP students that only have a Program Services Plan and no diagnosed special education needs were added. The use of a scribe is limited to students that have not reached proficiency in English and have not completed two full school years

in a United States school. Also, a listing of accommodations for use on state assessments for students with language barriers, separate from students with disabilities appears in the regulation. Two new definitions, Simplified Language and Oral Native Language Support, were added to provide more guidance.

- 703 KAR 5:080, Administration Code for Kentucky's Educational Assessment Program (Final) – The new Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) required that appropriate testing practices be updated. The most substantive change requires that classroom materials with content or strategies for solving problems be covered or removed during test administration.

The final versions of these two regulations, as approved by the Kentucky Board of Education, will have a public hearing on September 23, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Board Room, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky. Department staff anticipates receiving additional feedback from the School, Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council and other stakeholders as part of the hearing process. Any substantive changes or information will be discussed with the board during the Hearing Officer's Report at its October meeting.

703 KAR 5:140, Requirements for school and district report cards was reviewed at the August meeting and will come back for final approval at the October 6-7, 2008 meeting. Amendments being considered include changing the primary means of publication of the report card to the Internet rather than printing and mailing, although printed copies shall be supplied upon request; eliminating requirements for the expanded school and district report cards and altering the data indicators of teacher quality to remove redundancy and include indicators required by *No Child Left Behind*.

For more information on these three regulations, contact Ken Draut at (502) 564-2256 or via e-mail at Ken.Draut@education.ky.gov or Rhonda Sims at Rhonda.sims@education.ky.gov.

KENTUCKY ADOLESCENT LITERACY PLAN APPROVED BY BOARD

Since adolescent literacy is a Kentucky Board of Education priority, a statewide adolescent literacy plan was developed and brought forward for approval by department staff. With support from a grant issued by the National Association of State Boards of Education, Kentucky has had the opportunity to engage key stakeholders in formulating the plan. The plan is organized into the following areas:

- Teacher Preparation/Certification
- Professional Development
- Instructional Resources
- Data Informed Decision Making
- Support Structure

The Kentucky Adolescent Literacy Task Force will be reconvening to review the work plan for implementing the state plan's recommendations and the result of that meeting will come back before the board in October.

For more information on the Adolescent Literacy Plan, contact Jamie Spugnardi at (502) 564-9850 or via e-mail at Jamie.Spugnardi@education.ky.gov or Cindy Parker at (502) 564-2106 or via e-mail at Cindy.Parker@education.ky.gov.

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED AND COMMITTEES FORMED FOR 2008-09

As part of the August meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education re-elected Joe Brothers of Elizabethtown as its chair and elected C.B. Akins of Lexington as its vice-chair. Their terms are for one year, but they can be re-elected.

The following standing committees were also appointed in August:

Management Committee

Doug Hubbard, Chair

Austin Moss

Kaye Baird

Steve Neal

C.B. Akins

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee

Judy Gibbons, Chair

Dorie Combs

Jeanne Ferguson

Brigitte Ramsey

Billy Harper

For more information on officers and committees, contact Mary Ann Miller at (502) 564-3141 or via e-mail at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED AT THE AUGUST 6-7, 2008, MEETING WERE:

- 702 KAR 3:270, SEEK Funding Formula (Final)
- Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee Membership
- 704 KAR 3:340, Commonwealth Diploma Program (Final)
- request from the Webster County Public Schools for an extension of a waiver of 704 KAR 3:410, Section 7, Personnel, for the preschool education program lead teacher requirements
- district facility plan for Erlanger-Elsmere Independent School District
- district facility plan amendments for Anderson and Bourbon County School Districts
- KETS FY09 Unmet Need
- FY 2009 KETS Expenditure Plan
- 702 KAR 3:080, Treasurer's Bond (Final)

- declaration of emergency for Russell County and Wayne County
- attendance of Brigitte Ramsey, Steve Neal, Dorie Combs and Joe Brothers to the NASBE Annual Conference, October 16-18
- appointment of Steve Neal as the voting delegate and Dorie Combs as the alternate to the NASBE Annual Conference, October 16-18
- election of Isis Castro from Virginia as NASBE president-elect and Jose Perez from Georgia as the Southern Area Director
- attendance of Joe Brothers to the ADP Leadership Team meeting in Washington, D.C., September 11-12
- attendance of C.B. Akins to the Building Strong Futures Together conference, September 16-19
- attendance of Kaye Baird to the NASBE policy symposium on HIV prevention, October 15-16
- appointment of Dorie Combs, Chair; Jeanne Ferguson and Austin Moss as the Sam Robinson Award selection committee
- appointment of Dorie Combs to the Adolescent Literacy Steering Committee

OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED AT THE JUNE MEETING WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:

- Kentucky School for the Deaf Facilities Plan Update
- Status Report on Action Plan for Alternative Education Programs
- 704 KAR 3:390, Extended School Services
- School District Watch List: Dayton Independent
- KDE Employment Report

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2008, 2009 AND 2010

KBE Meeting Dates 2008

<u>2008</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
October 6-7, 2008	Regular meeting	Frankfort
November 5, 2008	Regular meeting	Danville – Visit Kentucky School for the Deaf
December 10-11, 2008	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE Meeting Dates 2009

<u>2009</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 10-11, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 4, 2009	Regular meeting	Louisville – Visit Kentucky School for the Blind
April 1-2, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort

May 12-13, 2009	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 10-11, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 5-6, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
September 9, 2009	Regular meeting	Kentucky Dam Village State Park, Gilbertsville
October 7-8, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 9-10, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE Meeting Dates 2010

<u>2010</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 3-4, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 3, 2010	Regular meeting	General Butler State Park, Carrollton
March 31-April 1, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 18-19, 2010	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 9-10, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 4-5, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
September 15, 2010	Regular meeting	Available hotel, Ashland
October 6-7, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 8-9, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort

For more information on the Board's schedule, contact Mary Ann Miller or Susan Palmer at (502) 564-3141 or via email at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov or Susan.Palmer@education.ky.gov.

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the August 6-7, 2008, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at (502) 564-3141.

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